

When the Administration was questioned regarding their involvement in Haiti, they justified their actions by critiquing President Aristide's effectiveness as a President.

Mr. Speaker, I myself have had many issues with the policies of President Bush. And I have always questioned the flaws of the 2000 elections that brought this Administration to office, but I refuse to believe any AMERICAN who believes in democracy would allow another country to help overthrow our government.

We do not teach people to violently overthrow our U.S. government, and we must not teach other people in the international community, particularly Haiti, to participate in activities that taint the hope for democracy by use of violence.

Mr. Speaker, this is a sad week for Haiti, the United States, and moreover democracy.

It is our moral obligation to find out the truth about this coup d'etat and cast light on the alleged covert activities of the Bush Administration.

It is time to stop the political pillaging of the country and begin saving Haitian lives for the future stability of the country.

Members of this Congress must condemn the continued violence and murders of Haitians, and call on the Bush Administration, OAS, and the U.N. to fully support democracy, the release of political prisoners like Yvonne Neptune, and disarm the thugs and rebels who continue to stifle democracy and create an environment of fear, intimidation, and anarchy.

We must press the transitional government, the OAS and the international community to respect the regional leadership of CARICOM.

And finally, we must push the United Nations to develop a special court in Haiti to try those who are most responsible for crimes against humanity instead of rewarding them with offices in the new government.

I call on the Bush Administration to do what is right for the Haitian people. I have introduced The TRUTH Act, or H.R. 945, which would commit President Bush and his administration to tell the truth about Haiti, and the Administration's involvement in President Aristide's ousting.

It is TRUE, that the Administration has, in essence, carried out a form of 'regime change,' a different form than it took in Iraq, but still regime change, and we must bring their actions to light.

Shame on President Bush and the international community that is silent as thousands of young Haitian poor men, women and children are murdered in the streets and stripped of their chance for democracy, peace, and a basic decent life.

Mr. Speaker, Haiti boils down to democracy, fairness, and freedom, concepts that the Bush Administration must learn to respect and uphold.

IN HONOR OF TILLIE FOWLER,  
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of the honorable

Tillie Kidd Fowler. Mrs. Fowler was a distinguished member of this House from 1993 to 2000. She was a personal friend and someone who I admired greatly.

Tillie was as good a Representative as this House has seen. She was tenacious in the defense of her constituents; principled to a point; and, willing to listen to any good argument.

Raised in an era when professional women were passed over regardless of qualifications for their male counterparts, Tillie used her sharp intellect to climb to the highest levels of government and public service; and our Nation is the better for it.

Today, as we grapple with how best to defend our Nation against the threats of the 21st Century, each of us in the public arena will have to double our efforts in order to fill the knowledge void created by Tillie's absence. We all relied on her keen insights and the significance of her efforts to rebuild our Nation's military and maintain the world's most elite armed services cannot be understated.

While I could go on and on about Tillie's policy successes as a United States Representative and later as Chairwoman of the Defense Policy Board Advisory Committee, it is her work off this floor that I will miss most. When the day's work was done, Tillie had an amazing ability to cut through the clutter and remind you what matters most; to keep you focused; and, to give you a renewed sense of energy with which to tackle the issues of the day.

Just as she was in life, her memory will continue to serve as an inspiration to all of us who knew her. May God receive and keep her, and hold her family close in their days of mourning.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF LAREDO INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPER-  
INTENDENT SYLVIA BRUNI

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important of contributions of Laredo Independent School District Superintendent Sylvia Bruni.

Ms. Bruni graduated from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in English, Spanish, and Education. She became a high school English teacher, and taught at the United Independent School District for 17 years.

In addition to providing an education for others, Sylvia Bruni has served as an example herself of the importance of continuing education throughout life. While teaching at the United ISD, she received her Master of Science in Education from Laredo State University. She also completed programs certifying her as a professional reading specialist, professional supervisor, professional mid-management administrator, and superintendent.

Ms. Bruni has held a variety of prestigious posts in Texas education. She was principal at Salinas Elementary School, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at the United ISD, as a faculty member at Laredo Community College, and as Director for the Office of Special

Programs at Texas A&M International University. She held the post of Director of Research, Planning, and Development before being named Superintendent of the Laredo Independent School District.

These activities, along with her commitment to community volunteerism, have earned Ms. Bruni a variety of awards, including Laredo Community College Top 50 Distinguished Alumni and Laredo Morning Times "Laredoan of the Year."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to add my name to the long list of people who have congratulated Sylvia Bruni on her competent and dedicated service, and her enormous contribution to the state of education in Southwest Texas.

COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CENTER OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA AND WASHINGTON, DC—ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate The Women's Center of Northern Virginia and Washington, DC on the 20th anniversary of its Annual Leadership Conference.

The Women's Center has been a resource for women in the workplace from its beginnings. The first Conference in 1985 was titled "On the Job Issues for Working Women." Held at the Vienna Community Center, the conference addressed four related areas of professional development: career strategy; development of management skills; networking and mentoring; and work relationships. It was at this event that the Center's hallmark program, The Information and Career Advisory Network (ICAN) was introduced. ICAN makes a customized network of professionals available to each of its participants. As the number of women in management positions grew, so, too, did the scope of the Annual Conference. Recent titles included "The Global Community of Women," "The Economic Equity of Women," "Caregiving in a Time of Change," and "Women Leaders, Changing the Dynamic." With this year's Conference, "Women in Leadership: Your Success Portfolio," the Women's Center continues its legacy of relevance and diversity by addressing the multiple definitions of and opportunities for leadership now available to women.

As the scope and size of the Annual Leadership Conference grew, so did the services of The Women's Center. Founded as a counseling and educational organization in 1974, the Center now offers a wide range of services and programs addressing the psychological, career, financial and legal issues of women and families. Counseling services, including group therapy and support groups, are now offered to women, couples, families and children. The Center's Information and Referral Service, which acts as a resource gateway for local human service issues, handles about 25,000 calls a year.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I congratulate The Women's Center on its comprehensive range of services and unique contribution to the

community. On the occasion of this 20th Annual Leadership Conference, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging this outstanding and distinguished organization.

#### JOB TRAINING IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 27) to enhance the workforce investment system of the Nation by strengthening one-stop career centers, providing for more effective governance arrangements, promoting access to a more comprehensive array of employment, training, and related services, establishing a targeted approach to serving youth, and improving performance accountability, and for other purposes:

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Chairman, while I did not support the Workforce Investment Act Reauthorization bill that was passed by this body, I would like to thank Chairman BOEHNER, as well as the Republican and Democratic Committee staffs, for assisting me in adding two significant amendments to the bill.

The first of these amendments relates to domestic microcredit, and ensures that local one-stop centers may use funding to provide information about the benefits of microcredit lending, and the local institutions that provide such loans, to individuals partaking in entrepreneurial training. The second amendment creates a demonstration project which will provide funds to industry consortia for the purpose of workforce training and development. Businesses, institutions of higher education, employee representatives, and workforce development community-based organizations within an industry will be able to join together to identify and address workforce needs within their given industry. These funds can be used to advance worker skills, conduct analyses of skill deficiencies and plans to address them, and develop rigorous training and education programs related to employment in high-growth, high-wage industries. The amendment creates a "win-win" for employers and employees, as it would help employers improve their workforce, and allow employees to obtain the skills necessary to advance their careers.

Again, I feel strongly that these amendments will result in positive changes to current law, and I thank Chairman BOEHNER as well as the Republican and Democratic staffs of the Education and the Workforce Committee for their assistance.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 3, 2005, I had left the chamber after the voice vote on the final passage of H.R. 841, the Continuity in Representation Act, thinking that congressional business had

ended for the day. I did not know that subsequently the vote was vacated and a rollcall vote was called. At that time I was on my way to Dulles Airport to fly back to my congressional district. If I had been present, I would have voted "aye" on final passage (rollcall vote 52).

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD PRESIDENT JOHN M. BRUCE

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important contribution of United Independent School District Board of Trustees President John Bruce in Laredo, TX in my Congressional District.

John Bruce is the President of the U.I.S.D. Board of Trustees. Bruce decided to make a run for elected office because he did not agree with some of the decisions the Board was making. Armed with that motivation, he ran for and was elected to the board in May 2002. "It's been a challenging and interesting experience," Bruce said. "I've met a lot of fine people."

John Bruce is the Director of the Laredo Job Corps, an education training facility. As Center Director of Laredo Job Corps, Bruce oversees an organization with an annual budget of \$5,500,000. Bruce is also a certified commissioned peace officer and a licensed law enforcement instructor. He is a certified K-9 trainer, a member of the Sheriff's Department SWAT team, and is a former Special Forces Operations officer in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Bruce ran on the platform of safety in our schools. He initiated the K-9 Patrol Program in UISD to help curtail drug and gang activity at district campuses. Job Corps recently donated two K-9s, which saved the district nearly \$12,000.

Bruce has a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism and history from Texas A & I University in Kingsville. He is also a licensed customs broker. Bruce has held numerous positions in several civic and community organizations. He was a member of the 2001 UISD Blue Ribbon Committee, he was vice president of the United High School Booster Club, and Bruce also serves as an advisor to Explorer Post 437. He is a member of the Laredo Masonic Lodge, the Laredo Shriners, and the Elks Lodge.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize United Independent School District Board President John M. Bruce.

#### TRIBUTE TO ELENA ANUZIS

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, last week, the State of Michigan and Detroit area community lost a member whose life was characterized by an altruistic commitment to her fellow human beings.

As the youngest daughter of a mill owner and a loving mother, Elena Anuzis was born in Lithuania in 1920, where she grew up in a peaceful country home with three sisters and a brother. But shortly after she married Ceslovas Anuzis, their peaceful life together was ravaged by World War II and the Soviet Union's subsequent occupation of their nation. Fearful for their lives, Elena and Ceslovas fled their country and traveled to the United States, specifically to Michigan, where they settled in Detroit and raised their four children—Ausra, Gailute, Saulius and Andrius.

Elena, along with her husband, is honored by the state of Israel as "Righteous Among the Nations," an honor bestowed to individuals who risked their lives to rescue Jews from the holocaust. Although their means were meager, they were willing to shelter Hasia Green-Gaslevitz, sent to them by a Catholic Nun from a nearby monastery. There is evidence the couple helped others. They rescued two Jewish girls from the Vilna Ghetto and found shelter for them at the home of a pharmacist in Lyda. They also provided false documentation for other Ghetto escapees.

Mr. Speaker, every day Americans live extraordinary lives, and Elena Anuzis exemplifies their quiet courage and sublime virtue. She triumphed over momentous trials and tribulations and, despite witnessing the horrors of inhumanity, she never ceased spying, eyeing and elevating the best in everyone; and, in essence and act, generously giving of her heart and soul to her fellow human beings. Let us then all pause to honor Elena; and extend our deepest condolences to her loved ones.

#### CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF LCDR ISRAEL G. "TEX" SEEGER, USNR (RET.)

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of Israel G. "Tex" Seeger and to honor his great contributions to the United States. Tex turns 90 on March 21, 2005, and he will celebrate this momentous occasion on March 26, 2005 at a special dinner with family and friends.

Tex's courage and brave dedication have made our country and the great State of New York extremely proud. Tex volunteered for the United States Navy on June 30, 1941. After graduating second in a class of 500, from the U.S. Navy V-7 Midshipman Training Program, Tex was awarded an officer's sword for achieving the highest grade in engineering for deck midshipmen. Tex began his service as Deck Division Officer and Boat Group Commander aboard the USS *Edward Rutledge*, an attack transport, during the invasion of North Africa. He then went on to serve as Operations Officer aboard the USS *Harry Lee*, another attack transport, during the invasion of Sicily, Tarawa, Kwajalein, and New Guinea.

In May of 1944, Tex was one of 50 Naval Officers selected to take the Preparatory Staff Course at the Naval War College. Following his graduation, Tex served as Operations Officer and Flag Secretary on the Staff of Rear Admiral Oscar C. Badger, where his duties included preparing contingency operation plans